



MEDIA RELEASE

2005 JOINT TASK FORCE-ARMED FORCES INAUGURAL COMMITTEE

Office of Public Affairs • External Media Division

Tel: (202) 358-5351 • Fax: (202) 358-1999

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

U.S. ARMED FORCES REHEARSE PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURAL CEREMONY

WASHINGTON – The Joint Task Force - Armed Forces Inaugural Committee (JTF-AFIC) is participating in a rehearsal of the 2005 Presidential Inaugural Swearing-In Ceremony and Parade Jan. 16, 2005 from 6 a.m. until noon in the vicinity of the U.S. Capitol and the Inaugural Parade route. During this rehearsal, Soldiers, Marines, Sailors, Airmen and Coast Guardsmen will carry out their inaugural day ceremonial role.

“The rehearsal consists of a mock swearing-in ceremony on Capitol Hill, where two blank artillery rounds will be fired at approximately 8:30 a.m., a partial parade, which includes more than 4,500 military participants and will start very early Sunday morning,” said Navy Captain Curt Reilly, JTF-AFIC Public Affairs Director. “Although the Presidential Inaugural is a significant national event, it is still important for us to minimize the inconvenience to the community and local businesses.”

Military involvement in the Presidential Inauguration is a centuries old tradition which honors the commander-in-chief, recognizes civilian control of the military and celebrates the peaceful transfer or continuation of power. JTF-AFIC is committed to carrying on this tradition.

“By noon, we expect all streets affected by the rehearsal will be reopened,” said Reilly. “JTF-AFIC, in coordination with Presidential Inaugural Committee and the Joint Congressional Committee for Inaugural Ceremonies, is making every effort to minimize the affects the rehearsal will have on the local community.”

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For further information, contact JTF-AFIC Public Affairs at (202) 358-5351. Information is also available on the Internet at <http://www.afic.army.mil>.

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